

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the paragraphs and tables at page 8, lines 1-7 as follows:

segment of the 5' non-coding region of HCV from nucleotide number 3290 to 3543 (**SEQ ID NO.: 5**) as described in the literature. The HCV sequence data relied on, the primers, and the selected probes are identified in the following Tables **I-III I-H and IV** (attached).

Table **I** **[[III]]**

Oligo	Forward Primer Sequence	Bases	MW	Label
HCV	5'-GCGTTAGTATGAGTGTCTGCAGCCT-3' ( <b><u>SEQ. ID. NO.: 1</u></b> )	26	8008	None

Oligo	Forward Primer Sequence	Bases	MW	Label
HCVR2	5'-GGTGCACGGTCTACGAGACC-3' ( <b><u>SEQ. ID. NO.: 2</u></b> )	20	6124	None

Table **II** **[[III]]**

Probe C1	5'-FAM-CCGGGAGAGCCATAGTGGTC-PO <sub>4</sub> ( <b><u>SEQ. ID NO.: 3</u></b> )
Probe C2	5'-TAMRA-GGCCCTCTCGGTATCAC ( <b><u>SEQ. ID. NO.: 4</u></b> )

Please amend page 8, lines 10 as follows:

Table **III** **[[IV]]**